

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 818  
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Janet Rouse on being  
named Witt Elementary School and Hamblen  
County Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to  
specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the  
highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Janet Rouse of Witt Elementary School is one such estimable educator who  
has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rouse has recently been selected as Teacher of the Year at her  
school, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive  
influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, as stated by Director of Schools Dr. Dale Lynch, "To be recognized as  
building level Teacher of the Year by one's colleagues is one of the most prestigious honors one  
can receive."; and

WHEREAS, recently, Dr. Lynch surprised Ms. Rouse with a bouquet of balloons and an  
additional award, the title of Hamblen County Teacher of the Year for pre-kindergarten through  
grade four; and

WHEREAS, as system-wide winner, she will now compete on the regional level, with the  
results to be announced later this month; the regional winner will then be eligible to become  
State Teacher of the Year, to be selected in October; and

WHEREAS, Janet Rouse places great emphasis on education in her personal life,  
having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Carson-Newman  
College and a Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of  
Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she has served with acumen and alacrity as an educator for twenty-five years; currently, she is a contracted homebound teacher; and

WHEREAS, Janet Rouse is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential; her students and their families consider themselves tremendously blessed by their association with her; and

WHEREAS, a true leader in her profession, she has served on the TCAP Writing Assessment Scoring Committee and the Science and Reading Textbook Selection Committees; she also completed state mentoring training and has employed her talents as a trainer for the Witt Elementary School staff and as a mentor for beginning teachers; and

WHEREAS, an active and invaluable member of her community, she has donated her time to such worthy causes as the Daily Bread Community Kitchen, the Morristown-Hamblen Humane Society, and the PTO Ways and Means and Fun Night Committees; and

WHEREAS, she is a devout Christian and has served First Baptist Church and her Lord as youth Sunday School secretary, a youth mission trip leader, and a care group leader for the Koinonia Adult Sunday School Class; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rouse truly serves as an inspiration to her family, friends, peers, and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate enough to know her; and

WHEREAS, Janet Rouse epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Janet Rouse on being chosen as Witt Elementary School and Hamblen County Teacher of the Year, commend and thank her for her exceptional service to the youth of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.